

TEL (757) 446-2094 FAX (757) 664-2179 Email: danstrom@lcimedia.com

November 7, 2003

## **EX PARTE**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20054

Re: CS Docket No. 98-120

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 6, 2003, I met with Commissioner Abernathy and her legal advisor for media issues, Stacy Robinson Fuller. In this meeting, I reiterated cable networks' opposition to giving broadcasters another advantage over cable programmers by requiring cable operators to carry broadcasters' analog and digital signals during the transition. I urged the Commissioner to reaffirm the Commission's earlier decision with respect to dual must carry and argued that the FCC should not grant broadcasters must carry rights for their digital broadcast signal until they have returned their analog spectrum. I explained that transitional must carry would not help end the digital transition and that it would have a significant negative impact on The Weather Channel and Weatherscan Local, as well as on other cable programmers.

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to my attention.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Decker Anstrom

Decker Anstrom

cc: Commissioner Abernathy Stacy Robinson Fuller